118

(private) London
Nov^r 1st

My dear friend

1852?

I am unspeakably vexed at your having printed Linton's attack on Kolyoake, without waiting for further light. If you had but known the character of the two men, you wd have waited. Linton is a malignant, wayward, irrational back-biter, who never kept a friend, & is at war with the whole human race, except some few whom he has never seen. His opinions of persons are worth much less than nothing. I sh^d not have written you this but that you have really compelled me to do it. Kolyoake is a fine fellow, only wanting more information about the abolitionists, &c., I need not say, I shall give him. — It is a cruel damage to every good cause

beginning heroism to join the despots & hypocrites of society in slandering Holyoake. It is as if the abolitionists were to begin making you out a scoundrel.

Mrs Chapman promised, but forgot, to denounce with you in the same way for sacrificing a good man to a slanderer in another case,— that of the Howitts & John Saunders. Saunders is an innocent & honourable man; & that quarrel was almost the only one I ever knew where the wrong was all on one side. Maria Chapman saw at my house a document of Wm Howitt's which convinced her,— & she gave me leave to tell you so,— of the falsehood

a copy of Wm Howitt. If you saw, in the proceedings of the Bankruptcy court, that Howitt was in debt £3,000 before he ever saw Saunders, that, I think, wd be enough. — I blame myself for not having written about this before: but I quite depended on M. Chapman having done so. —

And now, let me ask you how you do, & thank you very heartily for sending me your volume. I prize it very highly indeed, - as I always shall any token of remembrance from you.

You probably know that my field of Anti-Slavery action now is in the Daily News, — the next paper to the Times in circulation, & high above it in character. We have kept the fact quiet here because the

Americans in London, who are furious at my articles, wd. care less about them if they knew that they came from so notorious an abolitionist. — I am going to meet the Follens today at Mrs Reid's, & I am counting the hours till I may go. — I am in London for a few weeks after a desperately hard year's work at home. —

I am, my dear friend, yours with affection & deep respect

H. Martineau.

(W. L. Garrison.)